

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 511

By Johnson P

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Richard Murry Hawkins, Jr., of Ashland City.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Richard Murry Hawkins, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hawkins was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, he served with acumen and alacrity as a Municipal Courts Consultant for the University of Tennessee's Municipal Technical Advisory Service for Middle Tennessee, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, born on March 18, 1941, in Lebanon, to Sarah Elizabeth Forrester Hawkins and Richard Murry Hawkins, Richard Hawkins, Jr., was truly a remarkable man who accomplished much during his life; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hawkins grew up in Clarksville and graduated from Clarksville High School; and

WHEREAS, an aficionado of music, Richard, as a teen, started a quartet in Clarksville, which he named the "Caroland Crooners" after his favorite high school teacher, who then gave him free passes to leave class so that he could attend practice; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Clarksville High School, Richard Hawkins went on to graduate from Austin Peay University and then from the Nashville School of Law; and

WHEREAS, politically involved from a young age, he spent time as a young man working in Washington, D.C., where he served as an Aide to Albert Gore, Sr., and befriended the late Howard H. Baker, Jr., by whom he was later employed; and

WHEREAS, a man of great faculties, Richard Hawkins served as Bank President for several banks across Tennessee; he practiced law for several years in a private practice before he was named Clerk of Court to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, upon retiring from that post, Mr. Hawkins returned to the Nashville region, moved to Ashland City, and received an appointment as City Manager to the Town of Ashland City; and

WHEREAS, Richard Hawkins went on to serve as a Municipal Courts Consultant for the University of Tennessee's Municipal Technical Advisory Service for Middle Tennessee, a position he held for the remainder of his life; and

WHEREAS, a deeply admired and extraordinarily wise community leader, he served as President of the Tennessee Bankers Association and President of the Murfreesboro Jaycees; additionally, he was the driving force behind the renovation of the Howard H. Baker Federal Courthouse in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, he also gave of his time and experience as a member of the Board of the Nashville and Western Railroad Authority and an Executive Board Member for the Middle Tennessee Council of the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, Richard Hawkins was an active and devout member of the Ashland City United Methodist Church, which he served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hawkins was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated husband and father, Richard Hawkins is survived by his wife, Carolyn Sue, two sons, William Forrester Hawkins and Richard Hawkins III, and two step children, Dr. Charles Nelson Clark and Carlyn Leigh Clark; and

WHEREAS, he will be sorely missed by his five grandchildren, Brady McMillian, Erin Blue Thurman, Laura Madeline Hawkins, Austin Hawkins, and Samuel Forrester Hawkins; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed the company of his two sisters and their husbands, Marjorie Elizabeth Hawkins Trahern and Joseph Trahern and Katherine Hawkins Linebaugh and Mack Linebaugh; and

WHEREAS, a wise and beloved man, Richard Hawkins leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Richard Murry Hawkins, Jr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Hawkins.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.